

California Poet Laureate Carol Muske-Dukes (2008-2011)

Readings, Events and Activities

February 28, 2011 – Poetry in Conversation: Billy Collins and Carol Muske-Dukes - Billy Collins, U.S. poet laureate from 2001 to 2003 and author of nine collections of poetry, is an American phenomenon. No poet since Robert Frost has managed to combine high critical acclaim with such broad popular appeal. Following a reading of his work, Collins engaged in conversation with USC professor Muske-Dukes on the art, craft and foibles of writing poetry. The event was held at the Bovard Auditorium at USC, Los Angeles.

January 31, 2011 – Visions & Voices: Dancing the Poem - A night featuring the melding of the two languages of aesthetic revelation, The Get Lit Players and USC dancers led by USC Director of Dance Margo Apostolos enacted and danced both traditional and spoken-word poems. Works by contemporary poets Joy Harjo and Former national Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky were read aloud by Muske-Dukes, then interpreted by the Get Lit Players and danced in a variety of styles, including jazz, tap, modern and hip-hop. The event demonstrated the creative relationship between dance and language. The performance was followed by a discussion. USC, Los Angeles.

October 2, 2010 - 2nd Annual Maude Meehan Memorial Poetry Reading - Muske-Dukes read her works. Music Recital Hall, Cabrillo College, Aptos.

<http://www.baymoon.com/~poetrysantacruz/events/2010events/101002.html>

September 9, 2010 – Harold Clurman Poetry Reading Series - Muske-Dukes gave a poetry reading as part of the Series. Stella Adler Studio of Acting, New York City.

April 24, 2010 – Los Angeles Times Festival of Books -Muske-Dukes moderated a poetry panel, *Writers Without Borders*, with panelists Cristina Garcia, Tom Healy, Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon. USC, Los Angeles.

March 1, 2010 – Hop on the Magic Poetry Bus! An Evening with Carol Muske-Dukes, the California Poet Laureate, and Friends - A welcome was delivered by Howard Gillman, dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences; Professor Margaret Russett, chair of the Department of English; and Professor Carol Muske-Dukes. Readings and performances were provided by The Get Lit Players: Ryan Jafar, Monique Mitchell, Dario Serrano, Briana Taylor, Jazmine Williams. Special guest reading by Stacy Keach. Special guest reading by George Wendt. Featured Poets: Cecilia Woloch, Gabrielle Calvocoressi, Tom Healy, Dana Goodyear, and Muske-Dukes. An Introduction to the Magic Poetry Bus Drivers' Guide, animated by "Flash" Rosenberg of Flash Rosenberg Studio. Welcome to the Magic Poetry Bus: Film Clip by Amy Sampson. Cocktail Reception and Book Signing followed this event at the USC College of Letters, Art and Science, Los Angeles. Video of event here: <http://college.usc.edu/news/stories/697/all-were-aboard-on-the-magic-poetry-bus/>

February 10, 2010 – Samohi Poetry Slam – Poetry slam event at Santa Monica High School featured the Get Lit Players and Carol Muske-Dukes.

November 13, 2009 - Cecilia Woloch and Carol Muske-Dukes - The WordTemple Poetry Series at the Sonoma County Museum.

November 12, 2009 – Carol Muske-Dukes and Cecilia Wolloch - Muske-Dukes, author of *Sparrow* and Cecilia Wolloch, author of *Carpathia* were presented in an evening of poetry created by Katherine Hastings, host of *WordTemple* on KRCB 91.1 FM, and the WordTemple Poetry Books, Inc.

April 25, 2009 - Reading & Panel at Los Angeles Times Festival of Books -Muske-Dukes did a reading on the Poetry Stage and moderated *Making Words Matter* with panelists, Joel Arquillos, Diane Luby Lane, and Keren Taylor. USC, Los Angeles.

March 22-23, 2009 – California Poetry Out Loud Competition - Muske-Dukes was the keynote speaker at the opening night convocation and also participated as poetry judge during the competition. Both events took place at the Sheraton Grand Hotel, Sacramento.

April 23, 2009 - Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra in the final concert of Westside Connections series - Recognized as *LA Weekly's* "Pick of the Week" event, Muske-Dukes brought her creativity and expertise to the closing event of Westside Connections' inaugural season. Los Angeles.

April 23, 2009 – Take a Ride on the Magic Poetry Bus, KCET - To commemorate National Poetry Month, SoCal story editor Saul Gonzalez interviewed Muske-Dukes as she was preparing to hit the California highways in a "Magic Bus" full of poets who want to share their love for the written word with kids around the Golden State. Video and audio: http://www.kcet.org/socal/socal_connected_online/culture/take-a-ride-on-the-magic-poetry-bus.html

April 19, 2009 – Interview by Karen Lindell of the Ventura County Star.
<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2009/apr/19/not-resting-on-her-laurels-poet-has-plans-to/>

April 16, 2009 – Interview by Brian Lauritzen of KUSC - Muske-Dukes talked about poetry's musical origins and which types of poems she has selected to read at Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra's Westside Connections event on April 23.
<http://www.laco.org/podcast/17>

February 14, 2009 – Hearts Gathering - Poets, Laureates & Music for Valentine's Night, a shared benefit for KPFA Radio and Poetry Flash, also presented by Moe's Books. The event featured a major reading by Diane di Prima; Michael McClure; Muske-Dukes; Al Young, 2005-2008 California Poet Laureate, performing with jazz bassist Dan Robbins; and Stephen Kent, master player of Australia's *didgeridu* (performed with Eda Maxym). Hosted by Wes "Scoop" Nisker. Los Angeles

Other Activities

America: Now + Here - Muske-Dukes was part of the curatorial team of *America: Now + Here* and directed the poetry aspect along with Bob Holman. She oversaw *Crossing State Lines: An American Renga*. A renga is an epic conversational poem and more than 40 American poets are participating. <http://americanowandhere.org/>

A Life of Poetry - Muske-Dukes, USC Professor of English and Creative Writing, talked about how poetry is part of her life--and her work. Video here: <http://college.usc.edu/videos/featured/166/a-life-of-poetry/>